



The Hongkong Telegraph

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SHOWDOWN WITH PEKING REDS

Reply To Latest Cease-Fire Plan Likely To Clarify Issues

COMMENT

The new peace plan for Korea has been approved, as expected, by a resounding majority in the United Nations Political Committee.

The plan includes the most hopeful points of the earlier Western attempts to solve the Korean impasse—the Israeli plan and those of the United Nations three-man Peace Committee—and the proposals sponsored by the London meeting of Commonwealth Premiers.

The new peace plan is simple and certainly not provocative. It suggests that a cease-fire in Korea should be immediately followed by other measures designed to secure a settlement over a wide area of Far East affairs. All foreign troops would withdraw from the peninsula, disarming their Korean supporters as they went. A United Nations commission would take over the interim administration of the country and hold elections. At the same time talks would be opened among Russia, Communist China, Britain and America to discuss the Far East situation, including the fate of Formosa and Peking's representation in the United Nations.

The only discordant note in the Political Committee—the Russian bloc's vote against the proposals—is indeed ominous, and in some quarters is taken as foreshadowing rejection of the plan by Peking.

But if Communist China really wishes—as she has asserted—to see the Koreans united again and free to choose their own way of life as an independent nation; if she wishes to see peace in the Far East; if she wishes to eschew violence and work in harmony with the other peoples of the world through the United Nations, then she has no reason for refusing to accept the plan. It furthers her interests and protects her honour.

What is being offered by these new proposals is the hope of peace. This is more than can be found in any other quarter at the moment. No effort should be spared to turn this hope into reality.

Truce On Reasonable Terms Believed Possible

Lake Success, Jan. 14.

Diplomatic quarters believed today that Peking's reply to the most recent and probably final United Nations ceasefire plan for Korea would clarify four major questions facing the Western capitals.

BRIGHTER HOPES FOR PEACE

Lake Success, Jan. 14.

Sir Benegal Rau took off by plane today for London to confer with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, on the Far Eastern crisis.

Sir Benegal told newsmen at Idlewild Airport, New York, that he believed the chances for peace were "better" as a result of the United Nations' action yesterday in sending the new Korean ceasefire formula to the Chinese Communists.

"I say that for purely personal reasons," he said. He had no information to confirm or deny a report from New Delhi that Peking would be willing to consider the new five-point blueprint if the ceasefire and other Far Eastern issues were taken up simultaneously.

As approved by the Political Committee, the blueprint calls for a ceasefire first, then a peace parley including the Chinese Communists, at which Formosa and Peking's demand for United Nations membership would be key topics.

It was not expected that a reply from Peking would be received for several days because of slow communications between here and Peking. There was hope, and some expectation, among United Nations observers that Peking would not flatly reject the offer as it did the previous one.

A number of optimists looked for a reply from Peking that would touch off give-and-take negotiations that might lead to some sort of ceasefire deal.—United Press.

DAWN KOREA AIR RAIDS

Tokyo, Jan. 15.

The Far East Air Forces planes took off at dawn today to continue attacks on the Chinese and North Korean Communists.

The American Eighth Army Headquarters announced tonight that the town of Yongwol, 30 miles southeast of the United Nations defence positions at Wonju, in Central Korea, was burning.

The cryptic communique did not say whether this was the result of street fighting or bombing, but an earlier announcement had said a Communist regiment was moving south towards Yongwol, which lies about 10 miles north of the 37th Parallel.—Reuter and U.P.

They speculated that Communist China would accept a Korean truce on reasonable terms, and added that the attitude of Mao Tse-tung's government would clarify the following points:

1. To what extent is Peking independent from Moscow. This often raised question may receive the most complete reply yet when China reacts to the ceasefire proposal.

Diplomatic observers feel that the Soviet delegation is performing parliamentary manoeuvres aimed at the creation of a vicious circle that made an agreement with Peking difficult, if not impossible. They have studied carefully Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister's actions in the last few days and conclude that Mr Malik is seeking to frustrate the peace plan.

The best argument Mr Malik could muster for opposing the plan in the Political Committee was that "it constituted nothing new" and that "it was pushed through in the absence of Chinese and North Korean representatives."

Canada's External Affairs Minister, Mr Lester Pearson, said the Ceasefire Commission sought unsuccessfully to contact Peking and that Saturday's peace plan was a far more generous than the one Peking rejected on Christmas Eve.

Should, however, Peking accept it, or even take an attitude of leaving the door open to further attempts, then there will be much reason to believe that the relationship between Peking and Moscow is not as close yet as was made to believe.

U.S. ATTITUDE

2. Whether the United States will accept the Commonwealth suggestion for big power questions on the top level. The State Department and the United States delegation here have been pointedly uncommunicative on the question. But diplomatic sources believe that in the event of Peking's rejection of the peace plan it would be impossible for the United States to accept the London suggestion.

Should a ceasefire be accepted, however, there would be chances that President Truman may agree to a meeting with Stalin and Mao Tse-tung. The Soviet Union has been always willing to engage in such talks and it is believed she still maintains such attitude.

3. Whether a Communist military invasion will be staged against Nationalist-held Formosa. Military and political indications available seem to give currency to the belief that the Chinese Reds may be planning an invasion in the next two months. Official sources said that Pravda recently published an article stating that the Communists are ready to liberate the island.

CREDENCE

They recalled that an article with similar conclusion appeared in Moscow's "Izvestia" (Continued on Page 8, Col 3)

American Soldiers Detained

Berlin, Jan. 14.

The East Berlin People's Police today arrested three unidentified American soldiers who crossed into the Soviet sector by mistake, West Berlin police said tonight.

Police officials said that the soldiers were carrying hunting guns when they were seized.

The United States authorities were tonight negotiating for the release of the three soldiers. They would not give names of the men.

West Berlin police said that the three men were hunting in the American sector district of Lichtenrade when they crossed into East German territory by mistake.

They believed that the three men were taken to the People's Police Headquarters at Mahlow, East Germany, for interrogation.—Reuter.

Baghdad Bomb At Synagogue

Baghdad, Jan. 14.

One person was killed and 24 were injured, some seriously, when a bomb was thrown in the Masouda Shemtob Synagogue here today.

All the victims were rushed to hospital. The incident occurred when a number of Iraqi Jews were on their way to get a plane to Israel. The police opened an inquiry immediately.—Reuter.

DIVISION CHIEF 'RELIEVED'

Tokyo, Jan. 14.

Major General Robert B. McClure, commander of the U.S. Second Division which took part in the brilliant defensive stand against Communist assaults at Wonju, has been relieved of his command, it was announced today by Second Division HQ.

No reason was given for the action, in a dispatch cleared by Eighth Army censorship.

Gen. McClure, one of the top American experts on China, during the war was deputy Chief of Staff to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. He was highly regarded by the Division officers and correspondents.

He will be succeeded by Major Gen. Clark L. Ruffner, formerly Chief of Staff of the 10th Corps.

General MacArthur's Headquarters gave no reason for replacement of General McClure, who has won praise during the Korean campaign. He took command of the Division six weeks ago soon after the Kunur battle in North-West Korea, in which it fought its way out of a Communist trap.—United Press and Reuter.

Washington Putting Pressure On Soviet

Washington, Jan. 14.

The United States will confront the Soviet Union tomorrow with a firm demand for settlement of its overdue lend-lease account, American officials said today.

American and Soviet negotiators will meet at the State Department tomorrow.

American officials said that they would abandon polite diplomatic language and resort to blunt talk to obtain payment of the Soviet debt.

If the Russians continued to "stall", the officials said, the United States would consider this three-fold action:

(1) Demand the return of the key industrial supplies shipped to the Soviet Union during the war;

(2) Denounce the Soviet Union publicly for bad faith;

(3) Appeal to the International Court to settle the case. American officials said that

they would make three demands on the Russians:

These were:

(1) Payment of a "reasonable value" for lend-lease items with a peacetime use which were included among the \$11,000 million in lend-lease supplies provided by the United States during the war;

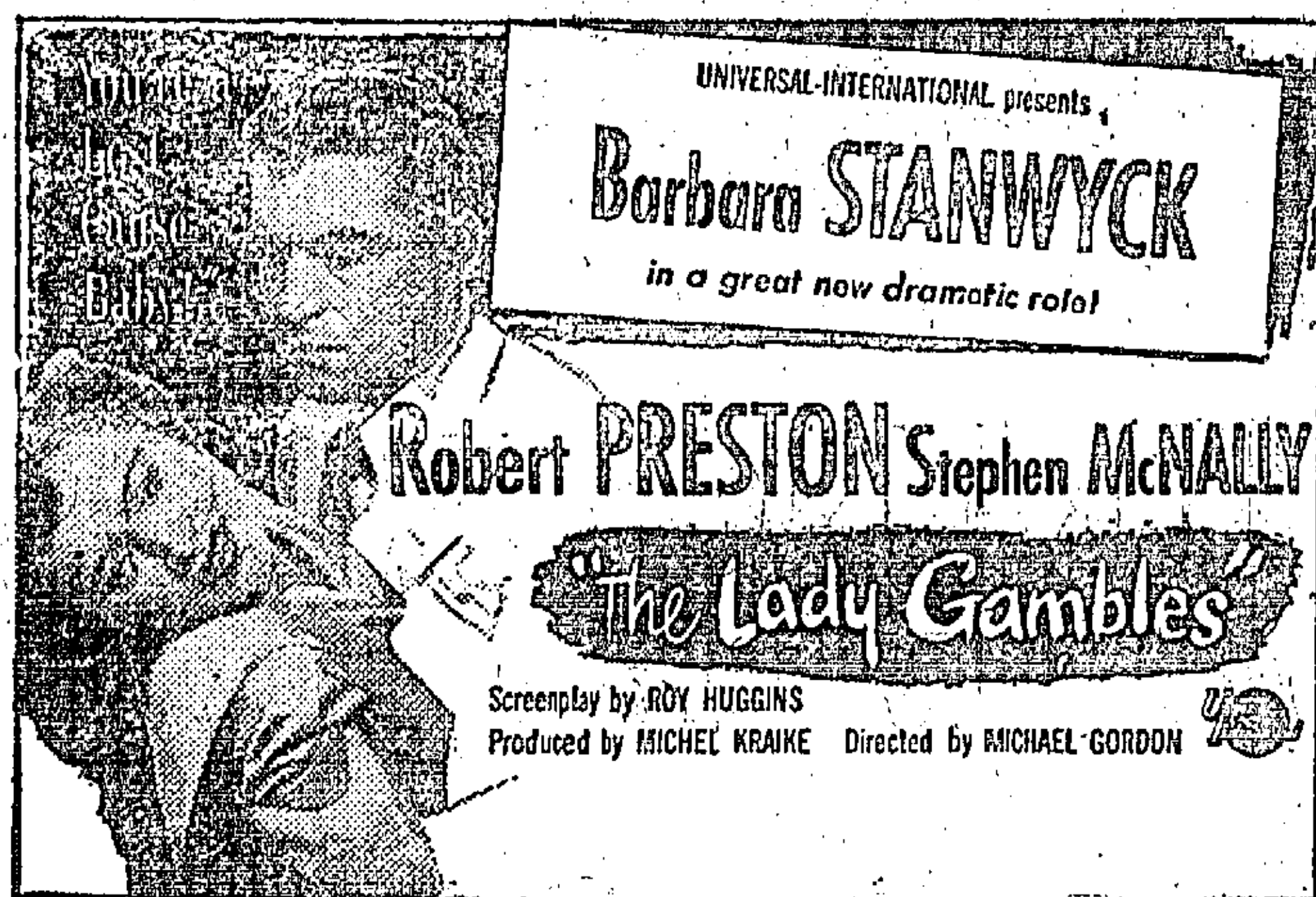
(2) Immediate return of 186 small American naval ships, including two ice-breakers;

(3) Compensation of six American companies for the use of patented processes in connection with a lend-lease oil refinery.—Reuter.

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TO-DAY

KING'S
AIR - CONDITIONED

AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30
P.M.



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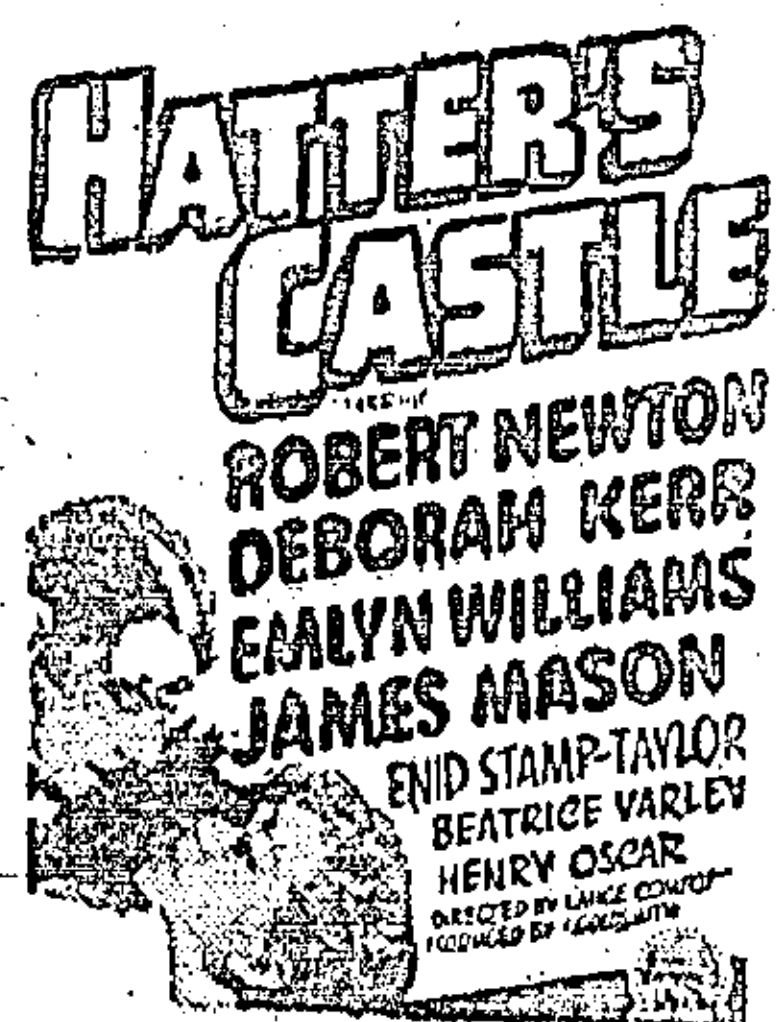
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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

THE MARX BROS.

in

"ANIMAL CRACKERS"



ADDED
ATTRACTION

66 LADY
TAKES
A BATH 99



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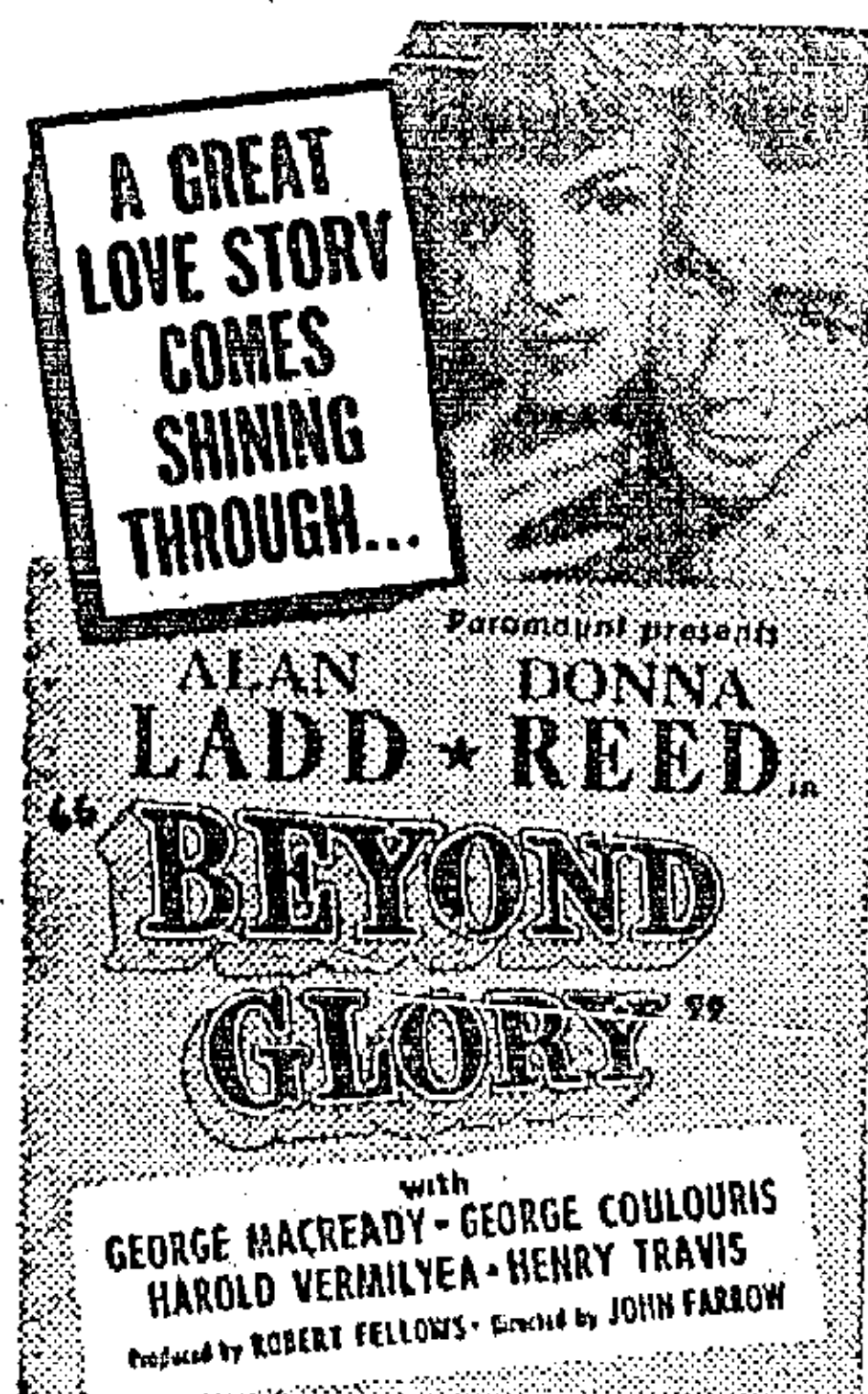
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Vincent Lynn Frank
PRICE * BARI * LATIMORE

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Laraine Day
FRANCHOT * TONE

in

"Without Honor"



Mr R. G. Menzies, the Australian Premier, photographed with his wife and daughter, Heather, at London Airport shortly after his arrival to attend the Commonwealth meeting. — Central Press.

INDO-CHINA FLARING UP WITH INTENSIVE VIETMINH OFFENSIVE

Hanoi, Jan. 14.

The French garrison in the outpost fort of Bao Chue, which was attacked by Vietminh insurgent forces this morning, successfully counter-attacked with bayonets and forced a rebel withdrawal, it was learned here tonight.

The French authorities said that they had also repelled attacks on two other outposts in the Northern delta region and added: "Our artillery forced the rebels to withdraw."

The assault on Bao Chue, 30 miles northwest of Hanoi, inaugurated what the French Army believed is a "major offensive" in Indo-China, according to the French Commander-in-Chief, General Jean de Latre de Tassigny, today.

The attack on this front was the first time since the war began in Indo-China, four years ago, that the Vietminh forces had deployed troops in the open country at brigade strength.

Air observation estimated their strength at six battalions—over 6,000 troops. The attack began before dawn and there were only 50 or so French defenders of the fort. The attackers brought 75-mm field guns and heavy mortars to bear on their targets.

French Union forces under the command of Colonel Vanuxem hurried to the relief of the garrison and soon contacted the attackers. The latest reports here tonight said that fighting was still going on with the French Air Force working in strong close support of the ground troops.

ATTACK NULLIFIED

The attack on the outpost was today compared by a military spokesman to the Vietminh attacks of Christmas week, when Vietminh forces were trying to penetrate the French advance positions guarding Hanoi.

The present attack, nullified by French artillery, was made in much the same direction, between the post of Tamdoo and the Day River, said the spokesman.

Meanwhile, another battle was going on today—some 50 miles northeast of Hanoi, in which the French killed 50 Vietminh regular troops and took several prisoners.

In Central Vietnam, Vietminh patrols were intense yesterday, specially in the Ourane area.

Elsewhere, in Southern Vietnam and in Laos, mopping up operations by Franco-Vietnamese troops continued satisfactorily. The rebels lost 25

killed, 31 prisoners and two wounded in these operations, the French Army stated. — Reuter.

Heligoland Dispute

Cuxhaven, Jan. 14.

A German scrap salvage squad, during a short stay on North Heligoland this week-end found eight students there, the West German news agency DPA reported here today.

The "Action Group Heligoland", campaigning for the return of the island to Germany, has asked the students to return to the mainland today in order not to "harm the present British-German negotiations" over the island's future by another "invasion", the report added.

The report could not be confirmed from any other source.

Royal Air Force bombing practice on the island is expected again tomorrow. — Reuter.

MAURETANIA TO RESCUE

New York, Jan. 14.

The 33,677-ton Cunard liner, Mauretania, altered course today to go to the aid of the 245-ton American fishing trawler, Sudrun, reported by the United States Coast Guard to be sinking off the coast of Nova Scotia.

Two destroyers were also dashing to the aid of the foundering ship. The Coast Guard, who picked up a distress signal from the Sudrun, fixed her position as about 200 miles south of Argentina, Newfoundland.

The Coast Guard said that aeroplanes and cutters were also converging on the position. A trawler normally carries a crew of 10 men. — Reuter.

Eisenhower Stirs Up Red Hostility

London, Jan. 14.

Over 300 people took part in an anti-Eisenhower demonstration called by the Communist-supported ex-Service Movement for Peace, in Trafalgar Square, in the centre of London today.

Their secretary later laid a wreath on the Cenotaph inscribed, "In memory of the British men and women who gave their lives to defeat Nazism and to prevent the resurgence of German military strength. We pledge ourselves to see that their sacrifice will never be destroyed."

After a meeting, an ex-Serviceman in the audience tore off his medals and handed them to one of the speakers, for despatch to Mr Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, or General Eisenhower.

A deputation handed in a letter at the American Embassy for General Eisenhower, protesting at re-formation of the German armed forces and "the placing of British troops under foreign command."

NAMES TAKEN

A considerable force of police were on duty near the Embassy and the names of the deputation were taken.

When General Eisenhower went to the home of Mr Walter Gifford, United States Ambassador to Britain, for dinner tonight he was applauded by a small crowd.

Four Communists, who shouted "We are not fighting for you, Eisenhower", were hustled away by the police.

General Eisenhower will call at Buckingham Palace tomorrow but will not see the King who is now at Sandringham, his country residence in Norfolk. General Eisenhower will "merely sign the book", indicating that he had paid a courtesy call, it was stated. — Reuter.

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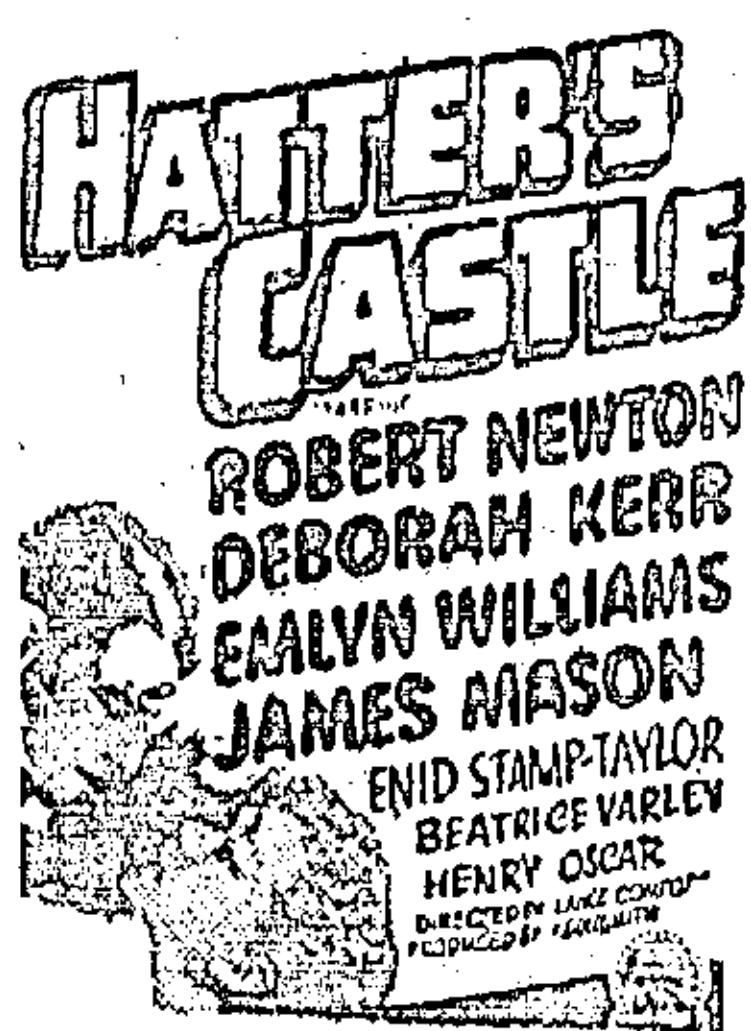
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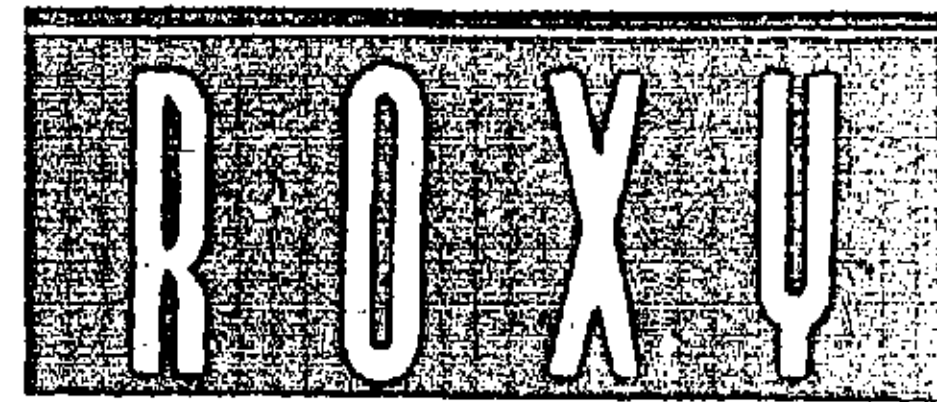
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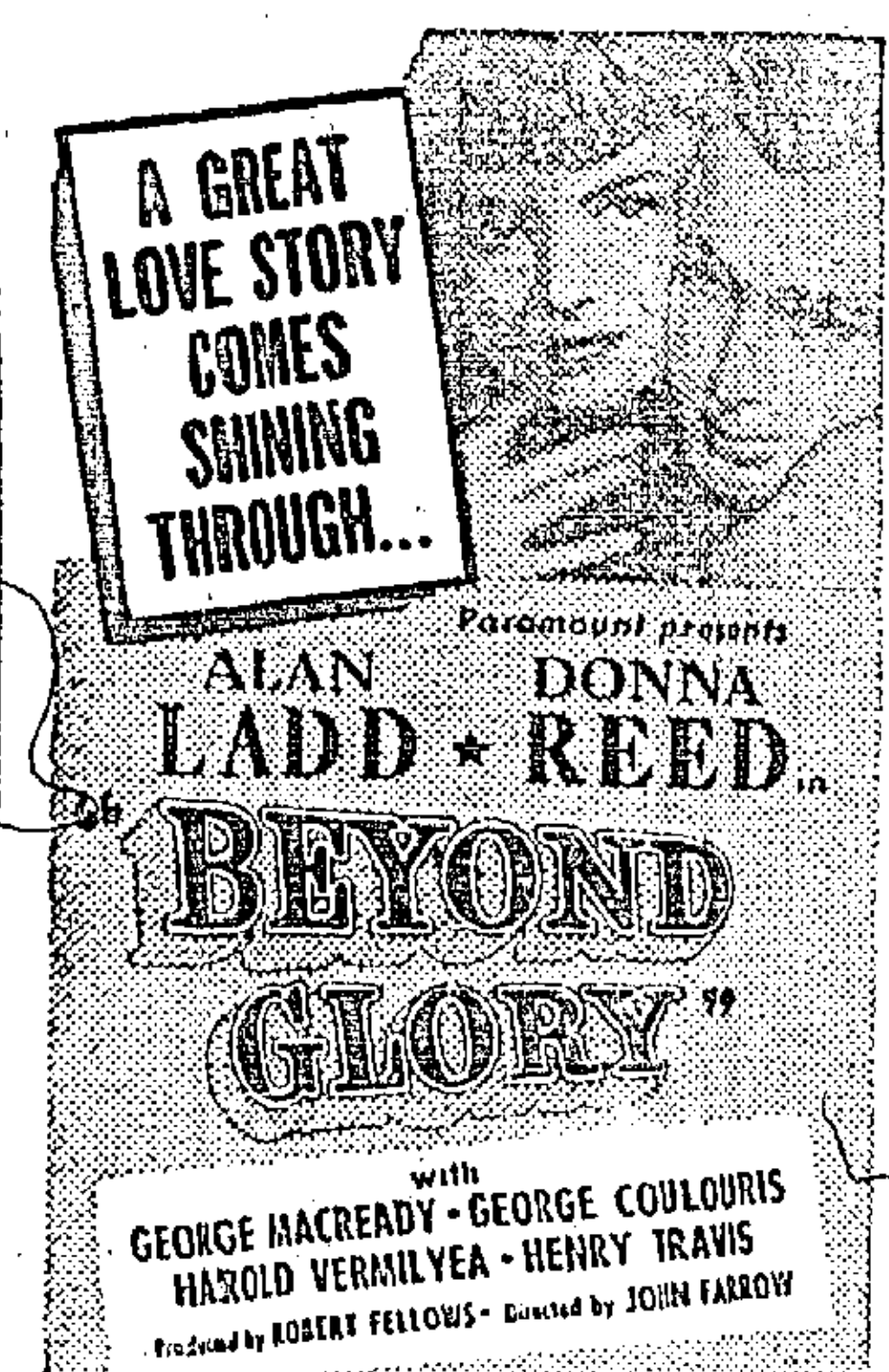
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SHARP CONFLICT OVER STORY

Reuter Man Held Incommunicado By 1st U.S. Army

STASSEN HITS OUT AT TAFT

Washington, Jan. 14.

The prominent Republican leader, Mr Harold Stassen, asserted today that Senator Robert Taft did not speak for the Republican Party on foreign policy. He predicted that the majority of the 47 Republican Senators would approve sending more United States troops to Western Europe.

Mr Stassen, president of the University of Pennsylvania and twice unsuccessful contender for the Presidential nomination, entered the raging foreign policy debate in an interview. He totally disagreed with Senate Taft's demand that the United States cut down troop commitments to Western Europe and concentrate on giving sea and air support to the Atlantic Pact Army.

"He (Taft) does not represent the Republican Party on foreign policy," said Mr Stassen. "His views are contrary to the overwhelming position of the Republicans in Congress and the country. He has not represented Republican foreign policy for 10 years and he does not do so today."

Mr Stassen predicted that General Eisenhower would return with an encouraging report on Western European progress toward rearmament and forecast that 35 out of the 47 Republican Senators would back the General's recommendations.

Mr Stassen, who has just returned from a world tour, promised to help rally Republican support for General Eisenhower. The question of the President's power to send troops overseas was only a legalistic detour and should not lead them from the main issue.—United Press.



SHE DIDN'T GROW THERE—Displaying an abundance of pulchritude, Josie Guerrero sits on a willowing palm tree on the beach at San Juan, Puerto Rico, where she captured a beauty prize.

Extraordinary Affair Ends In Overruling Of Army

Eusak. Jan. 14.

A Reuter's war correspondent, Alex Valentine, was today forced to leave the United States 1st Corps Headquarters after being held virtually incommunicado for 12 hours.

Restrictions were placed on Valentine after he had been denied the right to submit a news story to the Eighth Army Headquarters for censorship.

The dispute arose over a story written by Valentine from the 1st Corps area about soldiers' traditional grumbles.

The Corps' Public Information Officer, to whom stories have to be submitted for security screening, ruled that it could not be cleared.

Valentine protested that the story contained no classified information and demanded the right to submit it by teletype or telephone to the Eighth Army censors.

The Public Information Officer refused to reverse his ruling. Valentine then appealed to the Chief of Staff, who upheld his Public Information Officer.

Valentine maintained that the point at issue was not whether the story was, in the view of the Chief of Staff, objectionable but the right of a correspondent to be allowed to submit his stories to an authorized censor.

The Chief of Staff replied that the contested story would not, under any circumstances, be transmitted from the 1st Corps to the Eighth Army censor.

PROTEST REGISTERED

Valentine then telephoned the Eighth Army Public Information Officer and demanded that he be allowed to send his story to the censor. He was told that the matter would be investigated.

Valentine also telephoned Reuter's correspondent at the Eighth Army Headquarters, Ronald Batchelor, asking him to take up the matter with the Eighth Army.

Batchelor telephoned the Public Information Officer to register a protest and a request

that Valentine's story be cleared to the Eighth Army censor.

The Public Information Officer stated that he was investigating the matter and intended to speak to the 1st Corps Chief of Staff. Later he contacted Batchelor by telephone to state that the Chief of Staff was adamant in his refusal to allow Valentine to submit the story, which the Chief of Staff described as "scurrilous and completely untrue."

According to the Public Information Officer, the Chief of Staff declared that he would give permission for Valentine to file his story to the censor from the 1st Corps only if he was given a direct order to do so by the Army Commander.

NO FACILITIES

A few hours later Valentine was informed by the 1st Corps Public Information Officer that correspondents could no longer use telephones at the Corps Headquarters.

Valentine protested that the decision was "discriminatory" since he was the only correspondent there.

The Public Information Officer replied that the order had been issued by the Chief of Staff and he could not discuss it. He was told, however, that if he cared to submit any news stories, other than the story in dispute, they would be transmitted to the Eighth Army if approved on security grounds.

Valentine requested the right to communicate with his colleague at the Eighth Army explaining the position to him. This was refused.

When Batchelor telephoned the 1st Corps and asked to speak to Valentine, he was told by the Public Information Officer that the Reuter correspondent was not allowed to speak on the telephone.

Batchelor asked why and in what circumstances the ban had been imposed. The reply was that no further information could be given. His request to speak to Valentine personally was refused.

Reuter's Bureau in Tokyo later that night put through a call to the 1st Corps and attempted to speak to Valentine, but was also told that the telephone was "restricted" and Valentine could not use it.

BILLETING WITHDRAWN

In the meantime, Valentine was told that all billeting facilities for correspondents at the 1st Corps would be withdrawn from the following day (Sunday).

Valentine again pointed out that since he was the only correspondent at the 1st Corps Headquarters the decision appeared to be a move to force him out. He was again told that it was the Chief of Staff's order and could not be discussed.

The withdrawal of telephone and billeting facilities meant that Valentine could no longer report from that sector and he was, therefore, compelled to leave.

The disputed story, brought back to the Eighth Army by Valentine, was immediately passed by the Eighth Army

censors tonight without any deletions.

Asked to comment on the matter, Major Mel Voorhees, Chief of the Eighth Army's Press Security Division, said: "It has been my understanding that all censorship authority except that involving unit security rests with the Headquarters of the Eighth Army. Our instructed policy is to avoid arbitrary action."—Reuter.

Britain Challenged

Nicosia, Cyprus, Jan. 14.

Editorial articles in the press of both Right-wing and Left-wing sections challenge Britain to organise an official plebiscite throughout Cyprus to prove the people's wish for union with Greece.

Today is the first anniversary of the plebiscite held on this subject by the Greek Church.

Reminding the British Government that nearly 97 per cent of the adult population of Cyprus voted then for "enosis" (or union with Greece) the papers said that Britain should hand the island over to Greece before Greece herself raises the demand before the United Nations.—Reuter.

New Shipyard

Mexico City, Jan. 14.

The Italian Fiat company will construct a shipyard in Veracruz harbour to build 10 new 6,000-ton tankers for Mexico's oil fleet, the newspaper Ultimas Noticias reported yesterday.

In a despatch from Tampico, the newspaper quoted Senator Antonio J. Bermudez, head of the Mexican Oil Company, as saying the long contemplated plan is about to become a reality but gave no further details.—United Press.

Flu Epidemic

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Jan. 14.

Port officials here have ordered a close medical check on passengers entering Canada because of the influenza outbreak in England. The first big job will be the examination of 666 passengers arriving here tomorrow aboard the Cunard liner Scythia.—Reuter.

Strachey Backs Up Adenauer

Dundee, Scotland, Jan. 14.

It would be a libel on the present West German Government to suggest that it was Nazi or Fascist, Mr John Strachey, Britain's War Minister, said here today.

He did not doubt that it was a democratic Government, he said.

Mr Strachey was answering delegates of the local "Service Movement for Peace" and from the "Dundee Peace Committee."

Mr Strachey said he had heard nothing to suggest that former Nazi leaders should command a new German army. What had been proposed was that the Germans should make some contribution to the defence of Western Europe. What it was to be had to be discussed.

The Germans would not have an independent military machine of their own. That was precisely what was not proposed.—Reuter.

Bid For Father's Footsteps

Moscow, Jan. 14.

Vassili Josipovitch Stalin, 31-year-old son of Marshal Stalin, has been nominated a candidate for the Shelkovo District, Moscow region, at the February 18 election to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republics.

The younger Stalin, holding the rank of Lieutenant-General, is Chief of Air Forces in the Moscow Military District.—Reuter.

Queens

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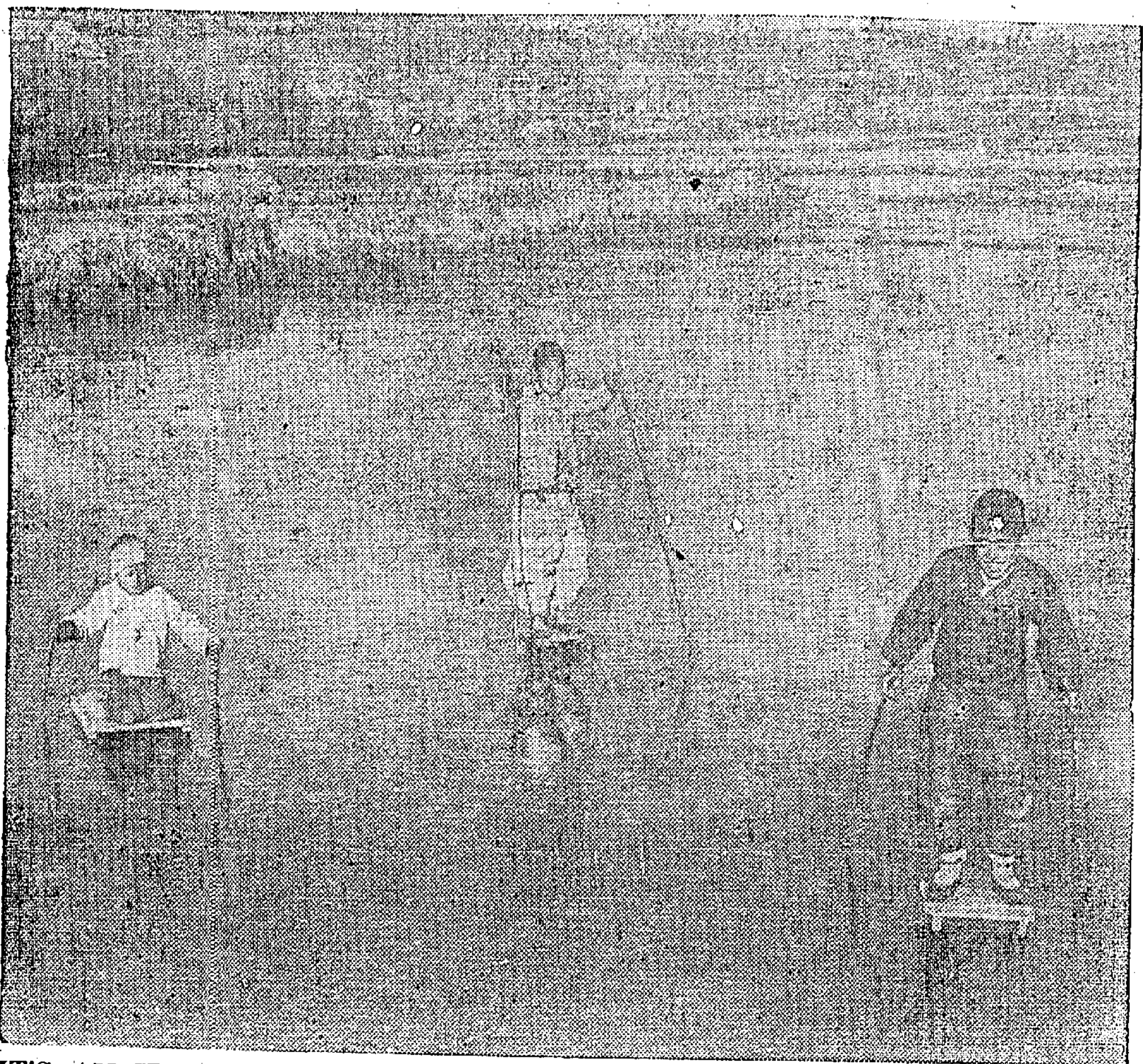
Take Any Eastern Tram Car or Happy Valley Bus

SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.30—7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
The World's best-loved story . . . tuned to laughter,
romance and song . . . A picture your heart will
long remember!



GEN. BEDELL SMITH IN TOKYO

Surprise Visit By US Intelligence Service Chief



IT'S AN ILL WIND—Although winter has brought suffering and misery to UN troops and natives in Korea, it brings the thrill of the year to some of the children. These youngsters are shown skating on a frozen rice paddy and, at the moment, war doesn't mean a thing to them.

Army & Air Force Chiefs Of Staff Also In Japan

Tokyo, Jan. 14.

Lieutenant-General Walter Bedell Smith, former American Ambassador to Moscow and now Chief of the United States Central Intelligence Agency, arrived in the Far East Command tonight, General Douglas MacArthur's Headquarters announced.

He was accompanied by Major-General Alexander Bolling, Assistant Chief of Staff.

The announcement said that they were on a staff visit in response to a long standing invitation from General MacArthur to get a personal briefing on the current situation.

The announcement did not say whether Lieutenant-General Bedell Smith had yet conferred with General MacArthur.

Staff cars were formed in two lines outside General MacArthur's Headquarters here throughout the evening as the military chiefs conferred. General MacArthur left the building just before midnight after meeting the officers from Washington, whose arrival was a closely guarded secret until the official announcement late last night.

The presence of the American Intelligence chiefs indicated, observers believed, that Washington was seeking first-hand information on the strength of the Chinese Communists in combat against the United Nations forces in Korea.

The United Nations withdrawals during the last month are facing the Command more and more urgently with the need for overall decisions, they added.

General Bedell Smith was appointed Director of the Central Intelligence Agency in August last year. The Agency supervises all American Intelligence. Its job is to gather and analyse reports from diplomatic, military and other sources.

Scores of Japanese gathered in the frosty night to watch the arrivals and departures of men who may have to decide whether it would be worth holding the Taegu beachhead in Korea in view of the possible sacrifices to hold off the powerful Chinese Communist armies.

GENERAL COLLINS

Meanwhile, the United States Defence Headquarters in Washington disclosed that General J. Lawton Collins, the Army Chief of Staff, and General Hoyt Vandenberg, the Air Force Chief of Staff, arrived today in Tokyo.

Their visit coincided with that by Lieutenant-General Bedell Smith and Major-General Bolling.

A Headquarters spokesman said that the two Chiefs of Staff "simply went out to get first-hand information as is customary when an operation is going on."

He added that General Bedell Smith had been planning such a visit for six or eight weeks.

In spite of these indications that the visits were routine, it was taken for granted in Washington that the gathering of high Command and Intelligence representatives was for something out of the ordinary. — Reuter.

Turns Down Post As Envoy

Manila, Jan. 14.

Mr Claro Recto today formally rejected a Government post as Ambassador to Spain on recommendation of the Nacionalista Party which said Mr Recto could serve the nation better here than abroad. — United Press.

SENATOR PRAISES BRITAIN

Washington, Jan. 14.

Senator Paul Douglas (Democrat) today defended the British and French rearmament efforts and said that, on a relative basis, these countries had "done substantially as much as we."

Senator Douglas declared in a comparison of the armed strength of the Allies: "It is not a question of absolute numbers under arms. It is a question of relative proportions who are under arms."

"Last year, out of every 1,000 in population we had 14 men under arms, Britain had 16 men under arms and France had 16 men under arms. As of March of this year, all three of these nations will be on an equality—18 men per 1,000 population."

"So, on a relative basis, up to now these countries have done substantially as much as we."

Senator Douglas pointed out that at the present time the United States was spending 8.7 per cent of the national income for defence, the United Kingdom 6.4, France 7.3. He added: "But Britain and France, in budgets which they just passed, raised the proportions to eight and 9.7 per cent respectively."

Senator Douglas urged that American forces be sent overseas but said the President should seek approval from the Senate because there is division in the country on the issue. — United Press.

Gurkha Patrol In Action

Singapore, Jan. 14.

A heavily outnumbered Gurkha army patrol fought a one-hour battle against more than 80 terrorists in the Kluang area of Johore until the band broke up and fled, it was officially announced today.

The guerillas attacked the Gurkhas from prepared positions last Friday, but the latter fought back tenaciously.

One Gurkha scout, who was leading the patrol, was killed.

This particular gang is believed to have carried out numerous attacks on food lorries in the Johore area lately. — Reuter.

Hostess Heroine Of U.S. Air Crash: Seven Killed

Philadelphia, Jan. 14.

A National Airlines DC-4 plane, carrying 25 passengers, including three children, and a crew of three, crashed and burned in a snowstorm at International Airport today, killing at least seven persons. Thirteen persons were injured, none seriously.

The bodies of five adults and two children were received at the city morgue, but a police officer at the scene of the crash

said eight bodies were removed from the wrecked plane.

The airliner was en route from Newark, New Jersey, to Norfolk, Virginia, when it crashed. The bodies were removed from the charred wreckage after firemen had cooled down the hot metal with fire hoses.

Witnesses said the stewardess, Mary Frances Housley of Jacksonville, Florida, was trapped in the flaming plane after she had helped some passengers out and then returned for others.

The plane skidded and crashed at the end of the mile-long runway after it had landed on the sush-covered asphalt of the airport. An airport guard, Charles Rogers, who was almost run down by the plane, said it skidded off the end of the runway, crashed through a fence and bounced through an eight-foot ditch. Flames broke out within 15 seconds of the crash.

The heroism of the stewardess was revealed by a sailor, Robert Clm, 18, who escaped uninjured. Clm was seated in the left side of the plane near the door.

"I noticed we were getting low," he related. "Then we crashed into a fence. Flames from the left engine covered the side of the plane. I heard someone shouting 'get my baby' but before I could get it I was pushed out of the door. I had thrown out my baggage. The stewardess was very calm. Standing inside the cabin, she kept telling people, 'Take your time.' — United Press.

FIRST EDITION

THE HONG KONG COUNTRYSIDE THROUGHOUT THE SEASONS

by

G. A. C. HERKLOTS

illustrated by the author and

A. M. HUGHES

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Puzzle Of Kuomintang's Forces On Formosa: Invasion Prospects Analysed

Taipei, Jan. 14.

Whether Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's 500,000-strong army on Formosa could become a military factor in the Far Eastern situation is the subject of hot debate among foreign observers here.

A year ago, as Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's defeated army re-grouped on fertile, mountainous, tropical Formosa, 100 miles off the Communist-held Chinese mainland, Nationalist leaders claimed that they could hurl back any Communist invasion attack.

Today, the Nationalists talk boldly of soon launching their own invasion attack on the mainland, of setting up a new Chinese capital in Nanking within a year, and completely routing the Communist armies by 1953.

These claims coincide with widespread "intelligence reports" from the Chinese Communist interior that preparations are being rushed for a defensive war.

The small team of unofficial American military advisers, attached to President Chiang's Headquarters in a private capacity, express wholehearted confidence in the Generalissimo's claims.

Most other foreigners in Taipei do not share this American enthusiasm for the Nationalists' hopes of effecting a come-back.

In support of their views, the American advisers argue:

1. That Generalissimo Chiang, despite his mainland defeats and responsibility for crippling corruption and inefficiency in his lower echelons, is still the most popular individual leader in China today. (Nationalist troop defections are blamed on Vice-President Li Tsung-jen, who sued for peace, a move with which President Chiang would not associate himself.)

GUERRILLA FORCES

2.—That genuine dissatisfaction with the People's Government has aroused a popular desire among the mainland population for a change of government.

The invading Nationalist forces would receive a warm welcome if they launched an invasion of the mainland.

Coupled with this, the American military men say, is another favourable aspect—that the Chinese "masses" are inherently "fence-sitters" and would hold out the flag of friendship to any Chinese general marching their way.

3.—That the mainland guerilla forces, particularly in China's southern provinces of Kwangsi, Kwangtung, Szechwan and the central coastal province of Kiangsu, south of Shanghai, are only biding their time to assist a Nationalist invasion.

President Chiang claims that 1,600,000 guerillas are loyal to him and daily harassing the Communist forces, holding down large numbers of troops which would otherwise be available for service in Korea and Indo-China.

LEAFLET RAIDS

The President's elder son, Lieutenant-General Chiang Ching-kuo, the Chief of Political Warfare, is using up-to-date American propaganda methods

to organise guerilla support and stir up a popular resistance movement in the Communist interior.

His transport planes range nightly over the coastal provinces dropping anti-Communist leaflets and telling of the "liberation" soon to be effected by his father's armies.

Air Force planes regularly drop rice to famine-stricken areas.

Young Chiang has despatched several hundred of his political officers to the mainland, some dropped by parachute, some landed from fishing junks, to help organise the resistance movement.

All these factors, according to the American military advisers, add up to a Chinese Nationalist resurgence as a military factor and one recognised by General Douglas MacArthur, who flew to Formosa in July to promise President Chiang support in his anti-Communist fight.

THE OTHER VIEW

Although most other foreigners believe that the Nationalists could, even without American help, beat back a Communist invasion attempt, that is the extent of their optimism.

They think that talk of a counter-invasion is purely propaganda designed to bolster morale both on the mainland and on the home front.

The Generalissimo, they say, is holding out Formosa only in the hope of a world conflict in Asia. This, he hopes, would find him back with Western support as President of the whole of China.

To achieve this, they argue, he must maintain the appearance of being a military factor—"a sword against Russian expansion"—to appeal to the Western forces combating Russian expansion in Asia.

Such claims as President Chiang's personal popularity, his guerilla backing and probable support by a popular anti-Communist resistance movement, these observers treat with circumspection as possibly part of the new political warfare programme.

CLAIM DISCOUNTED

Foreigners with long experience in China tend to discount President Chiang's claim that he controls a 1,600,000-strong guerilla force.

They believe that the greater number of so-called guerillas who now undoubtedly harass Communist troops, are nothing more than China's traditional bandits, who have as little regard for Generalissimo Chiang as they have for the Communist leader, Mao Tse-tung.

The biggest imponderable, these foreigners believe, is still whether Nationalist troops would be prepared to fight in a mainland counter-offensive. Past experience has shown that troop defections are the key to the Nationalists' defeats.

President Chiang's soldiers did not willingly choose exile in Formosa and the majority have not seen their homes in at least three or four years.

Many people here believe that a Nationalist landing on the Chinese mainland would be the signal for many of the troops to surrender and get home as quickly as possible—unless United Nations backing and crushing Communist defeats elsewhere made victory seem certain.

Generalissimo Chiang's officers, on the other hand, rebut any suggestion of possible defections, claiming that morale and loyalty to the Generalissimo is higher than ever before in the history of the Chinese Republic.—*Reuter.*

Empire Plan Attacked

Washington, Jan. 14.

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers' proposal for an exchange of ideas with Stalin or Mao Tse-tung was fraught with mischief, the independent Washington Post declared today.

What the Ministers hoped to accomplish was a mystery, the newspaper said.

Their declaration had come at a time when the United Nations' Political Committee was shaping a proposal for a four-Power conference on Far Eastern problems, also the most delicate negotiations were under way for a Big Four conference to discuss Germany's future and other causes of East-West tension.—*Reuter.*

Grenade Outrage In Ipoh

Ipoh (North Malaya), Jan. 14.

Three British soldiers were wounded tonight, two seriously, when a hand grenade was thrown at them in the centre of Ipoh.

A young Chinese couple were also wounded.

The grenade was thrown from inside a crowded amuse-



A SMILE AND A SNARL—Pretty airline hostess Faith Sisman has her two charges pretty well in hand in London. The six-week-old cubs, Cherry, left, showing a bit of disposition, and Pamela, more complacent, are going to a zoo in Calgary, Canada.

Home Fleet Leaving For The Med.

London, Jan. 14.

Ships of the British Home Fleet will leave this week for Gibraltar for their Spring cruise, the Admiralty announced today.

Others will leave in early February to join them. Together they will sail from Gibraltar into the Western Mediterranean for exercises with the Mediterranean Fleet.

Later, some of the ships will visit ports in Italy and the French Riviera.

The cruiser Swiftsure and three destroyers will leave tomorrow and the battleship Vanguard on Thursday.

More destroyers, frigates and submarines will leave during the week.

Two Fleet aircraft carriers, the Indomitable and Indefatigable, and other destroyers will leave early in February.—*Reuter.*

"JAPANESE MUST BE PREPARED"

Tokyo, Jan. 14.

Mr Jeichi Masuhara, the Chief of the Japanese National Police Reserve Corps, has stated that his organisation must be fully prepared for any emergency at home in view of the delicate international situation, the Japanese Jiji news agency reported.

The police chief, who was speaking at a party at Kawaga, Shikoku Island, revealed that the training of Corps members was already under way in 50 centres throughout the country.

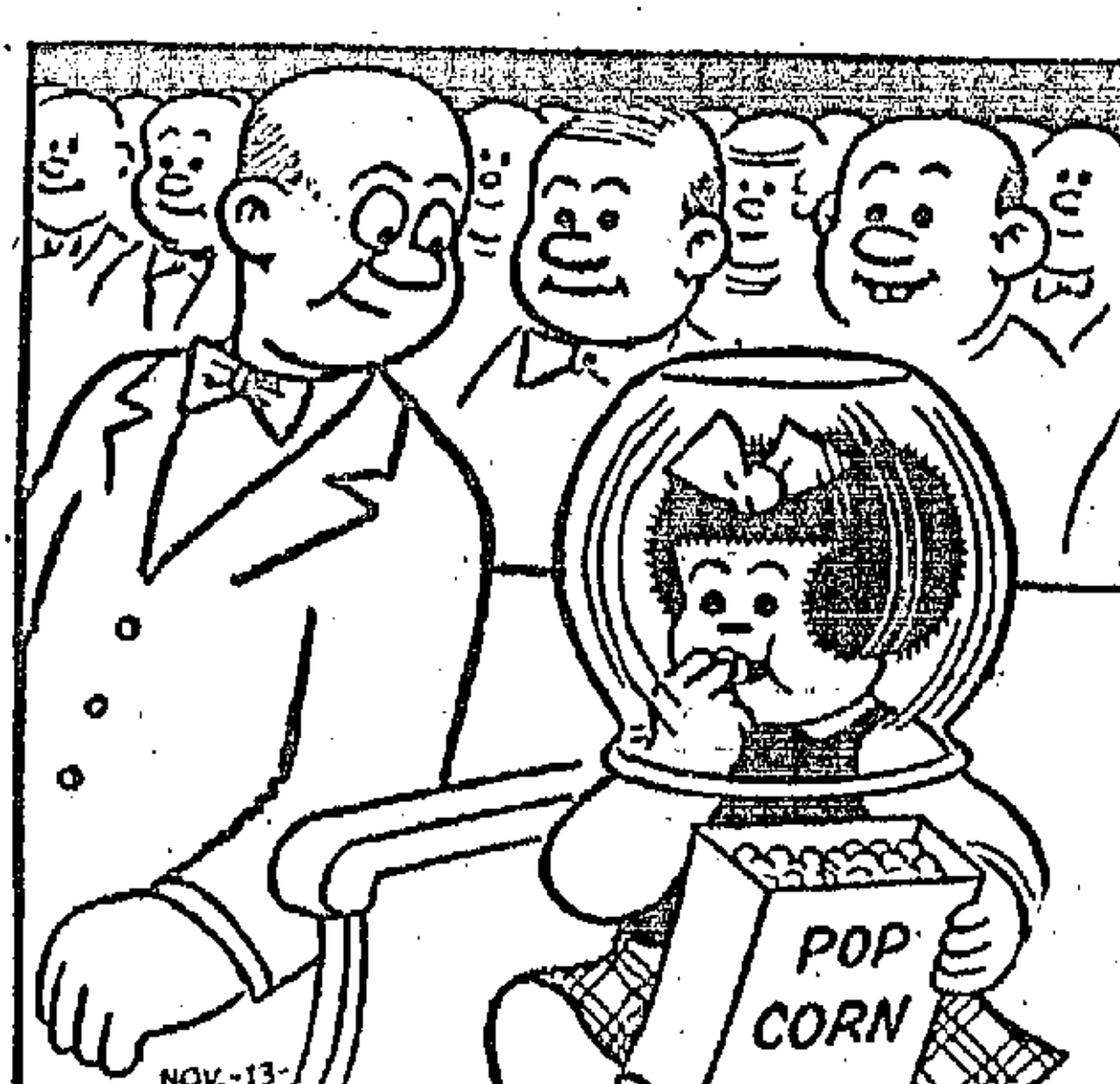
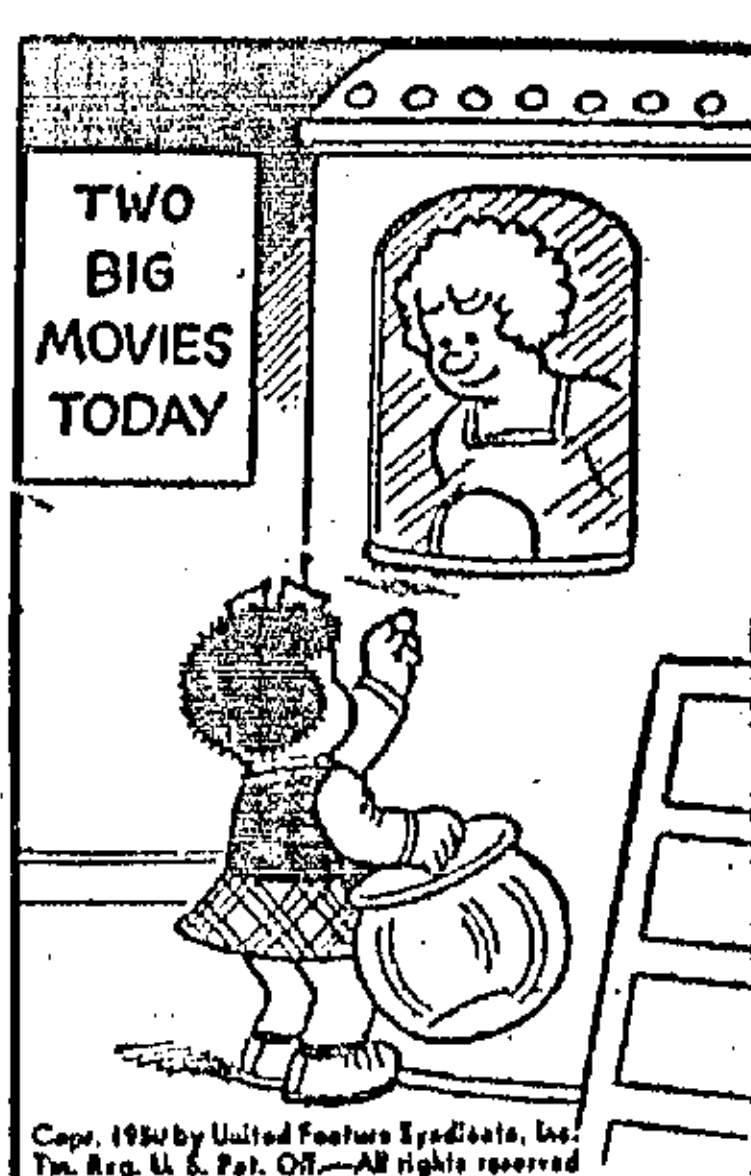
The Corps was not an armed force, he declared, but an organisation designed to maintain peace and order in Japan.

He said the Japanese needed a new determination to guard their home country from foreign aggressors at any time and under any circumstances. It would be quite wrong to assume that the Japanese would not be required to fight if their country was invaded from abroad.

No member of the Corps would be sent abroad to take part in any foreign war.—*Reuter.*

NANCY

Consider-ate



When there's bif I needn't use my fist!



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Possibility Of Major American Sports Dying Out

By CONNIE RYAN

Boxing, football and baseball, all of them major sports in America, are having increasingly hard times, and responsible officials in boxing and baseball fear those sports may die out in years to come.

Boxing and baseball are having their troubles in the same place—the neighbourhood areas. In boxing, the small clubs are dying rapidly, and it is from the small clubs that the Madison Square Garden headliners come.

In baseball, the minor leagues are in trouble, and tomorrow's major league stars must come from the minors. Football is losing its place in the small colleges, but probably will remain successful in the big schools with winning teams.

Max Joss, promoter at the Broadway Arena in Brooklyn, makes a definite prediction: "Small-club boxing will be dead in five years unless there is some protection from television."

Joss's forecast may come true, for already this year his

New York. Broadway Arena, and the Sunnyside Arena, the Bronx Winter Garden and the Jamaica Arena, all in New York, failed in professional boxing promotions. With the small clubs gone, where will the youngsters get the experience they need?

Baseball is in just as bad a fix.

"The stream of baseball talent is running dry," says president Frank Shaughnessy of the International League. "Baseball leaders must kill the bonus rule, and then they must put strict curbs on radio and television, or minor league baseball will die. And without the minors, there can be no major leagues."

The worried men in baseball, boxing and football all have the same complaint—radio, and especially television of major events, hurts attendance at the minor events. If the Ray Robinson-Bobby Dykes fight from Chicago can be seen on television all over the country on Wednesday night, who will pay to see a small-club match? If the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox are available on television, the people watch that and stay away from their local team's games.

A World Plan Is Worked Out For Al Phillips

By GEORGE WHITING

Be prepared for the clamour of a thousand devils if Al Phillips, erstwhile Aldgate Tiger, takes the feather-weight championships of Britain and the Empire from Lancashire's Ronnie Clayton at Nottingham on January 29.

Phillips himself, a veteran of 13 tough seasons in the professional ring, is a quiet little man—saving his sales talk for potential customers of his modestly successful printing business in North London.

But, out front, Al has the best set of backers in boxing. Led by manager Jack King, and backer Benny Smith, they have already talked the Tiger into his third title shot at the ripe old age of 30—but that performance will be as nothing to the world-wide hullabaloo they will let loose if Phillips gets the nod over Clayton.

Ben Smith, glowing in anticipation, gave himself a little rehearsal at my expense when we met at the signing-of-contracts ceremony this week. Ceremony is the right word—empires have fallen, and kings crowned, with less ritual.

Omitting the quaint Smithsonian embroidery of idioms—gone-wrong, I was informed that once Clayton is beaten—a formality, of course—the feather-weights of the world must prepare for hell and high water.

First, the Smith-propelled Phillips would seek to put his newly won Empire title at stake against the bantam-weight champion of the world, South Africa's Vic Towel. With moliments to match.

Ray Famechon, French holder of the European title, would be prevailed upon to continue a serial that now stands at 1-1 with all-action Al.

Finally, world champion Sandy Saddler would be challenged to doff his American publicity kilt and come out fighting—under championship conditions and for championship wages. Promoter Reg King has already put out a feeler or two for a world title battle at Nottingham next summer.

Phillips, having inspired similarly optimistic outbursts prior to his unsuccessful title tilts with Nel Tarleton and this same Clayton, listened to the ebullient Smith with a diffident grin. Al was machine-gunned, dive-bombed, mined and torpedoed during the war—so noise does not upset him unduly.

NO SLIPPING

But his own comments were pitched in a much more modest key. Said he:

"I know I am lucky to be getting this third chance, and I promise I'll be fitter at Nottingham

than at any time in my life. I've boxed 25 rounds with Clayton, and if I have not learned all I want to know about him after that, then my name is not Phillips.

"From now until January 29, everything goes. No more smoking, no late nights, no business worries. And if I feel like slipping. Snowy Buckingham, my trainer, will be there to see that I stay put.

"I feel sure, I can win. If I don't I shall pack up and become a manager and trainer. That printing business will keep me going. I've made enough out of the fight game to keep me in bread and butter for the rest of my days. If I become champion—well, there will be a little jam on it as well."

Such a polite Tiger. Not a bit like the blue-chinned little fury they used to boo in the bad old days.

P.S.—Cheer-leader Smith says Phillips will win by means of "good left hand boxing." No comment.

(London Express Service).

MADRAS XI WELL BEHIND

Madras, Jan. 14.

The Madras Governor's XI, following on against the Commonwealth cricketers on the second day of their match here, were still 79 runs behind with two second innings wickets down at the close of play.

The Commonwealth team declared their first innings closed at the overnight score of 319 runs for eight wickets. The Governor's XI were all out for 101 runs in their first innings and were 139 runs for two in their second innings at the close.—Reuter.

Austria Badly Beaten

Lausanne, Jan. 14.

Switzerland beat Austria by 12 goals to one in an international ice hockey match here today.

The period scores were 7-0, 7-1 and 7-0.—Reuter.

FISTICUFFS IN RUGGER SCRUMS ALLEGED

London, Jan. 14.

Rugby football is a "he-man's" game and one has to be tough to play it, but whether or not players should go out of their way to make it rough is another matter.

Controversy has been aroused out of the Varsity rugby match between Oxford and Cambridge, which was much rougher than usual. It seems to be generally admitted that at least one Cambridge forward used his fists; possibly the Oxford men did too.

Some people seem to applaud these fisticuffs and one columnist spoke of the "enterprise" of the Cambridge men. But is this really necessary? Is it right that an already tough game should be made unnecessarily rough. Should there be tacit approval of the man who "kill" the other fellows in the scrum as there would appear to be?

Several big men in the Rugby world say not. Wilfred Wooller, the noted Welsh International three-quarter, wrote: "We shall always have the occasional rough player but I believe the amateur Rugby player is fundamentally a sound and fair-minded man. He has no desire to stave in the ribs or black the eye of a man that he counts as his friend and with whom he will be drinking a mug of good cheer later in the evening."

FOR GENTLEMEN

Colonel Wakelam, the former Harlequin player, writing in his new book "Rugby Football: How to Succeed," quotes a world-famous judge who said that Rugby football is a game for "gentlemen of all classes" and adds his own comment: "Meaning by gentlemen men who are

sportsmen unwilling to take unfair advantage or do a dirty act."

Incidentally this booklet (illustrated) is an extremely good one shillings' worth.

So the best teams and players will not try to do a little boxing on their own account and attack their adversaries when the referee is not looking. He is there to see fair play.

Anything done against the rules when the referee is not looking is cheating and as the great Sir William Wakefield, who got 31 caps for England whom he captained on many occasions, says: "In Rugby there is no place for the cheat."—Reuter.

Shirley Beats Record Holder

Melbourne, Jan. 14.

Australians won 12 first places in 25 athletic events against international competition at the Centennial Games, Canterbury, New Zealand.

The Western Australian sprinter, Shirley Strickland, who twice defeated the world record-holding "Lithgow Flyer," Marjorie Jackson, picked up three of her wins on the last day of the programme. She did best for Australia.

Jamaica's only representative, Arthur Wint, won three races and England's Roger Bannister one. Bannister ran the fastest mile of his career when he recorded 4 min. 9.9 secs.—Reuter.

LEAF OUT OF LONDON BOOK

Melbourne, Jan. 14.

A new athletic track similar to that used in London for the 1948 Olympic Games will be built at Melbourne's Olympic Park.

Like the London track, the new track will be reddish in colour. All materials for it will come from Victoria.

Engineers of the Public Works Department carrying out the work will use volcanic scoria stone from Mount Dumeed, near Geelong, and burnt-stone from the mining town of Wonthaggi.

The track will have a depth of 12 inches, including a base of coarse ashes and sawdust.—Reuter.

Easy Victory In Indian Oaks

Bombay, Jan. 14.

The Maharajah of Morvi's Nava Ratna scored an easy victory today in the Indian Oaks at Mahalaxmi Racecourse here.

Ridden by the Indian champion jockey, Khem Singh, the horse won from a field of 11 runners.—Reuter.

A Most Remarkable Soccer Collection By ARCHIE QUICK

Go into the Derby County boardroom and you will see one of the most remarkable collections in soccer. The room is completely surrounded by photographs of players who have won International caps while playing for the Baseball Ground club, and there is no organisation in football with a finer record. The formidable list covers a period from the days of the great Steve Bloomer and his colleagues of thirty or more years ago to the latest club man to receive a National award—centre-forward Jack Lee.

The roster of International 'Rams' is: Bloomer, Buckley, Bagshaw, Cox, Davis, Archie and John Goodall, Halligan, Kinsey, Maskrey, Mercer, Charlie and Johnny Morris, Robinson, Richards, Scattergood, Spilsbury, Warren, Astley, Carter, Dix, Doherty, Gallacher, Lee, McCulloch, Napier, O'Brien, Steel, Stephenson, Barker, Bowers, Cooper, Crooks, Duncan, Howe, Keen, Moore, Mozley, Quattrill, Reid, Storer, Sharpe, Thornwell and Ward. A total of 44, and maybe I've missed one or two.

Quite a good story lies behind the list. Some time ago, I pointed out to manager Stewart McMillan that the inimitable Hughie Gallacher was missing from this photographic hall of fame. It appears that Scotland's and Tyneside's hero had never had photo taken wearing his International cap. So an extra picture was faked by the missing headgear being etched in.

Where are those great celebrities now? I can tell you some of them. Many like Steve Bloomer, Tom Cooper, Mike

O'Brien and Charlie Napier are dead. Frank Buckley is manager of Leeds United, and others in similar control are Horatio Carter with Hull City, Peter Doherty with Doncaster Rovers, Dally Duncan with Luton Town, Harry Storer with Coventry City, and Sammy Crooks with Shrewsbury Town.

Ivan Sharpe is now a well-known journalist and Hughie Gallacher is settled in Gateshead. Others have moved on to new clubs. Billy Steel, to Dundee, and Howe, to Huddersfield. Eric Keen is a coach in Sweden. Dai Astley is now helping Tranmere Rovers in their bid for their first ever promotion to the Second Division, and Ben Warren has a son, Harry, managing Southend United. Jack Barker and Jack Bowers are still on the County staff as scouts. Ronnie Dix and Dave McCulloch have recently retired from the game, finishing their careers with Reading and Bath City respectively. The only ones still assisting the County are skipper Tim Ward, Jack Lee and Johnny Morris.

Concluding The Churchill Story AN ELDER STATESMAN

By Colin Frame

THE swiftness with which Winston Churchill stepped from VE day to General Election day in 1945 and re-entered the hurly-burly of politics startled many people.

They expected him to retire gracefully, full of years and honours, into the role of Elder Statesman, robed in ermine and crowned with a coronet.

To see Churchill stalking 1,000 miles of Britain from platform to platform was, to these people rather like waking up to find Nelson had left his column to stand on a soap-box in Trafalgar Square.

But whatever the pros and cons, this return to political struggle was in many ways typical of one who has always sought the front line of human affairs, there to exchange shot for shot with the enemies of his beliefs.

The Garter

SO these post-war years have twice seen him rampaging the country vigorously at election times, and very few of those who vote against him would not be proud to do him personal honour.

After the victory the King offered him the Garter, the oldest order of chivalry and one reserved by the King for those he specially wishes to honour. Churchill begged to be allowed to decline it.

So it is still Mr. Churchill, just as in his teen-age days, it was Mr. Gladstone.

Churchill remembers how people used to go to the Commons to see Gladstone in his last masterful years. He looked like some great eagle, sharp-eyed, aloof, powerful.

In The Commons

NOWADAYS thousands flock to the Commons just to see Churchill in that place which still seems his home.

They see him stumping slowly along those historic corridors. They watch him as he sits, often glum and glowering, in his seat, the light shining on that massive head. They listen as he stands to speak, and they fall under the enchantment of his words.

All this people come to see, not that Churchill is yet so old as was Gladstone, but because he has become a legend, holding more magic in his name than Gladstone ever did.

Honoured Abroad

"I AM a child of the House of Commons," he is fond of saying. And no one can doubt that in these post-war years, although deprived of power, he is happy there, alert to the intricacies of debate, sensitive to the varying moods of members, knowledgeable over what may or what may not be said.

But these post-war years, however buffeted he has been on the political scene at home, have given Churchill great honour abroad.

As the European who did most to woo victory and as the man whose voice made bearable the chains of Nazi slavery, Churchill emerged during them as the idol of the occupied countries.

"I deem it a noble task," he said in his 1943 broadcast on post-war problems, "to take part in reviving the fertile genius and in restoring the true greatness of Europe" and the years 1945 to 1950 have seen him bent to that task so that there now stands at Strasbourg a memorial to it in the Council and Assembly of Europe.

Delighted and cheering crowds there, in Paris, in Oslo, in Holland, where they strewed his path with tulips and in Copenhagen most recently have borne witness to the regard the European has for him and in 1948 he was made President of Honour of the Congress of Europe in Holland.

Made History

IN the past five years the dunce's cap of 60 years ago has been exchanged for the

scholarly cap and gown of the universities of at least seven nations anxious to confer degrees on him.

"He has written history, lived history and made history," said a professor at Oslo as he invested him with a doctorate in 1948.

Nearly 30 towns and cities have made Churchill their free citizen in those five years, ranging from ancient Athens to the New World's Cuba, and most recently Copenhagen.

Nearer home, in addition to politics, he has for a man in his seventies had an immensely busy time. Four of his lengthy books on the last war have been completed. In five years Churchill has written (that is figurative, for he still works largely by dictating to secretaries) about as many words as are in the Bible.

Sturdy Fitness

OVER his lifetime he has had published, at a conservative estimate, four times as many words as Shakespeare.

Since the war alone he has earned at least £100,000 with his pen.

Two short bouts of chesty illness have kept him to his bed in these years, but almost daily the news tells of his sturdy fitness.

Only last month he flew back from a lively visit to Denmark, flew to Newmarket to see his horse win and then flew off again to Blackpool to take part in the Conservative conference—a 24-hours which many younger men would regard as wearing.

Of all his speeches of the post-war years the one considered most important and the one that struck the keynote of all that have followed was that made at Fulton in the United States in March, 1946.

In it he coined the metaphor that has become the catchphrase of today's international politics. He said: "An iron curtain has descended across the Continent of Europe."

In that speech he urged for the United Nations, much as he had done ten years earlier for the League of Nations, an armed force capable of asserting international authority.

His Idea

HE suggested that each nation should for a start dedicate a number of air squadrons to UN service.

Today, four years later, under the stress of war in Korea, a start has been made on this idea.

Also in that speech he pleaded, as one with Anglo-American blood in his veins, for a "special relationship" between Britain and the United States.

3,000 Speeches

MANY people read into this the suggestion of a treaty, and he was criticised for it, but it is clear that what he had in mind was more that relationship which goes beyond treaties and makes them superfluous—the relationship of a family.

By such speeches, here and abroad, Churchill has emerged during the five years as a great international statesman, whereas before the war he might have been regarded as merely a great patriot.

No living man has so many full-length thoughtfully prepared speeches to his credit. Biographer Lewis Broad puts their number at about 3,000 which is more than one a week throughout the whole of his political half-century.

In the post-war years Churchill has consolidated not only his place in history—even a tyrant does that—but also in the hearts of his countrymen, for he has his share of personal admiration from the Left as well as the adulation of the Right.

Taking His Ease

PEOPLE everywhere have shared with affection not

merely the Churchill of the hustings, but glimpses of the old war leader taking his ease—Churchill under a huge sombrero and two umbrellas busy painting while Italian police throw stones to keep photographers away; Churchill gazing proudly at his lion Rota, which has done honour to its owner by siring 30 cubs; Churchill patting his race-horse; Churchill in green trunks with pink stripes clambering out of the sea and grumbling to those anxious to take his picture "I'm no bathing beauty"; Churchill, only recently, with his wife at the Old Vic receiving vociferous greeting.

Many Lives

IF either at home or abroad, the crowds press hardly upon him, who can blame them?

For we who have followed over the past four weeks the tale of this extraordinary human being can hardly deny to him, whether or not we agree on much that he has done, a quality of greatness verging on the epic and the legendary.

We talk glibly about "a rich life" or "a full life."

Into the lifetime of this man is packed half-a-dozen lives, each rich in achievement. Some men are well satisfied to have had the honour once of election to Parliament. Churchill has fought seventeen elections and won twelve of them.

Some men feel their ambition satisfied if they become a Minister; Churchill has held every Ministry of importance with the exception of Foreign Affairs.

Some men seek a peerage. Churchill has refused one.

Some centre their ambitions on sport; as a boy Churchill was unrivalled as a fencer, as a young man he played No 1 for one of the finest polo teams in the world and in his old age he has become a steward of the Jockey Club and owner in Colonel II. of one of the most regularly successful racehorses in the country.

Pictures In Academy

SOME would be satisfied if they could paint just one successful picture: in 1947 there were two Churchill pictures on view in the Royal Academy.

Some spend their lives trying to write a best-seller: Churchill has, quite apart from many books of collected speeches, nearly 20 original books to his name.

Old ones like his biography of Lord Randolph Churchill and his studies of Marlborough will be read with delight by future generations; his books of two world wars will be historically immortal. "Their Finest Hour" was welcomed with the largest first impression—220,000—of any book in peacetime. It was sold out in a few hours.

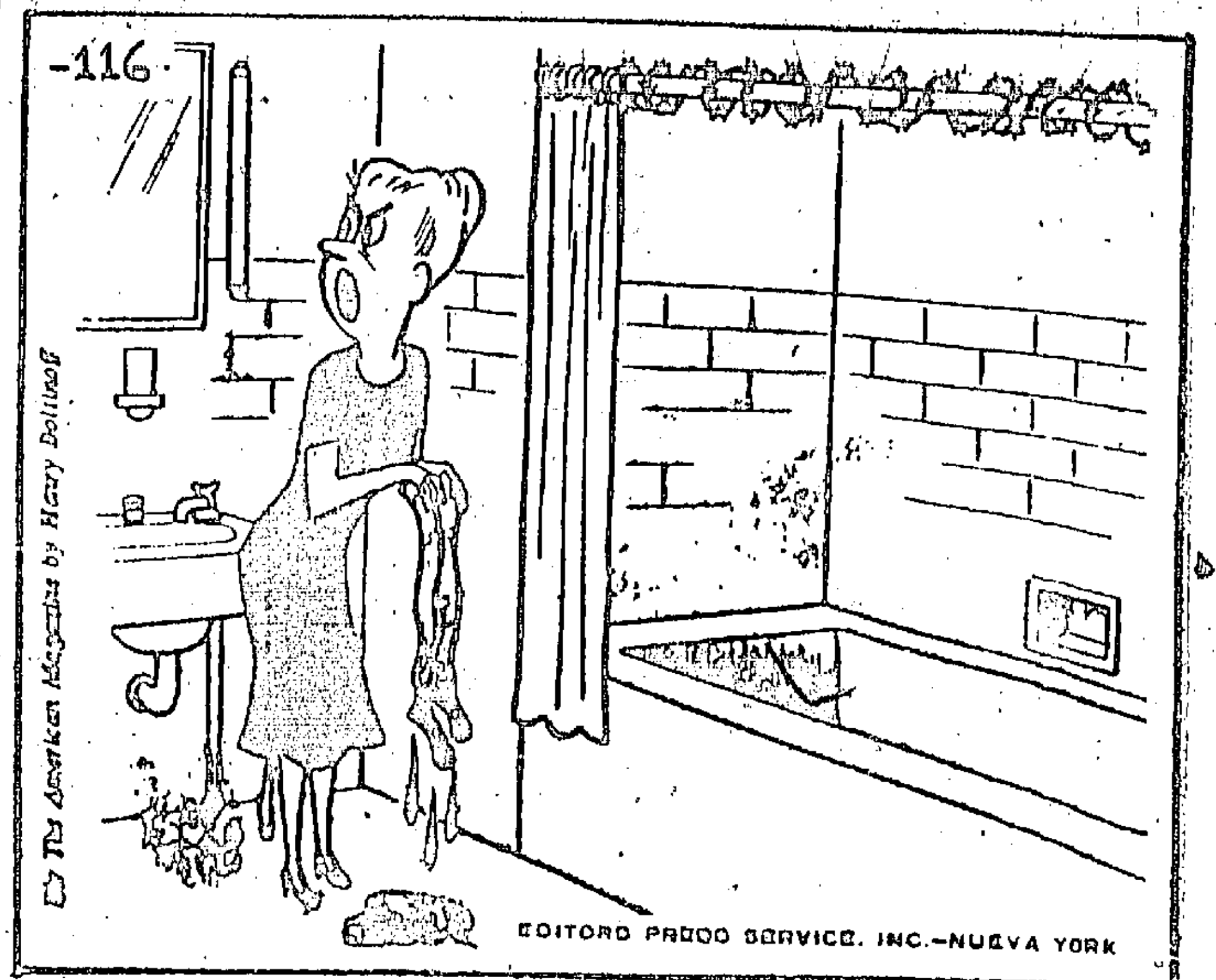
Some men would consider their career crowned with success if they were promoted to command a regiment; Churchill has done so. Some men live for fighting; Churchill has been in action in four continents and has risked his life in seven campaigns over half-a-century.

Gothic Arch

SOME desire a memorial on their death: Churchill, who will have his in the history books, can now pass daily to the new Commons under a Gothic arch which bears his name.

To call his "a full life" is to borrow from his store of Churchillian understatements. No wonder he told an American who asked him how he felt about winning a bet on the Kentucky Derby "I have had greater thrills in my life."

This is the last chapter in "The Churchill Story." Yet, happily, it is not the end. For the tale is still being written. And on the last day of November Mr Churchill had his 76th birthday.



"John?"

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Defence Stockpile Buying Dominates The Wool Market

Sydney, Jan. 14.

United States buying to build a defence stockpile of wool is dominating the Australian market, a wool trade authority said here today.

He said that because of this competition, market prices are expected to soar beyond the present record level.

Buyers abroad were being told that they would have to raise their offers if they wanted wool.

Normally, the United States demand is only for fine spinning wools, suitable for a high-class civilian trade.

Now, they are buying heavily in coarser types which are undoubtedly for defence purposes, the authority said.

He added that Japan was also buying cross-bred topmaking wool of a similar quality and paying for it in Australian currency. It was almost certain that when this wool was treated, Japan would make most of it available to America, he said.

Brokers here said it was impossible to estimate how much wool was going to Russia. Ships leaving Australia for Odessa were always filled with wool, but there were fewer boats on this run now than a few years ago.

Australian wool prices reached a new peak at Sydney wool sales last week. Figures generally were 20 per cent higher than in last December.—Reuter.

Textile Display At BIF

London, Jan. 14.

The complete ground floor at the Earl's Court section of the 1951 British Industries Fair is to be devoted to the biggest textile display ever staged in this country.

Textiles are expected to be the big attraction at the Fair which will be attended by thousands of overseas buyers, many of whom will stay on to attend the Festival of Britain.

The BIF opens on April 30 and lasts till May 11.—London Express Service.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South
North-South game

N.		E.	
♠ 3 2		♠ J 9 7 5	
♥ Q 6		♥ K 8 7 5	
♦ A 9 7 4 2		♦ Q J 6	
♣ K 10 8 5		♣ Q 6 4 2	
W.		S.	
♠ Q 7 6 5 4		♠ A K 10 8	
♥ A J 10 3		♥ 9 4 2	
♦ J 9 7 3		♦ K 10 8 5 3	
♣ A		♣ A	

In a duplicate pairs contest this deal was played by North-South at most tables in a hopeless contract of Three No-Trumps. In one case however, South bid One Diamond, West One Spade, and North's raise to Three Diamonds led to a well-judged bid of Five Diamonds by South.

West led ♠ 5 to East's ♠ J and South's ♠ A, and declarer was in trouble when West failed on the lead of a trump to Dummy's ♠ A. South came back to his hand with ♠ K, cashed ♠ K, and followed up with ♠ 8, which West carelessly failed to cover, although South was marked with ♠ 10 after East's play of ♠ J at trick 1. ♠ 6 was discarded in Dummy and East had to ruff with his winning trump. South's contract was now safe.

London Express Service.

Grain Price In Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 14.

Prices in the grain futures market here closed today as follows:—

Wheat—price per bushel.	
Spot	2.43½
December	2.43½
March (1951)	2.42½-2.43½
May	2.36½
July	2.37½-½
Corn	
Spot	1.79
December	1.74¾-1.75
March (1951)	1.70¾-¾
May	1.74¾
July	1.73¾-1.74
Rye	
December	1.76½-¾
May (1951)	1.78½-1.79
Oats	
December	95½
March (1951)	95½-¾
New York flour—per 200 lb. sack,	
\$14.15.—United Press.	

New Orleans Cotton

New Orleans, Jan. 13.

New Orleans, Jan. 13.	
Spot	44.65
March (1951)	43.98
May	43.46 bid
July	42.00
October	39.90
December	39.54 bid
March (1952)	38.07 bid
May	38.10

—United Press.

NEW BRITISH DEFENCE BOOST

Big Increase In Three-Year Arms Expenditure Predicted

Eisenhower In London For Momentous Talks

London, Jan. 14.

General Dwight G. Eisenhower, the North Atlantic Supreme Commander, closed the door of his hotel suite here today to all callers, official and unofficial.

He was resting after an intensive week of travel around the West European capitals and before starting a two-day round of talks with members of the British Cabinet and military chiefs tomorrow.

It starts with a visit to Britain's defence Minister, Mr Emanuel Shinwell. Later he will meet the British Chiefs of Staff. They will discuss Britain's new defence plans even before the Cabinet has studied them in full.

According to reliable reports these plans are based on the spending of £5,000 million for rearmament over the next three years, a £1,400 million increase on the original estimates.

General Eisenhower is expected to be told of a proposal for calling up 100,000 of Britain's Z-men—civilians who served in the last war and were demobilised—for three months' training in modern methods.

He will also be shown details of a rough blueprint for Middle East defence, drawn up by the nine Commonwealth Prime Ministers during their conference here last week.

According to one report in London today, General Eisenhower will press for the immediate appointment of a number of leading British generals to his staff.

THREE ARMY GROUPS

It was believed here that General Eisenhower wants a top-ranking Air Force officer to co-ordinate and advise on all air matters, and that he will ask for the formation of three army groups in Western Europe, composed of (1) United States forces, (2) French, (3) a combination of British, Belgian, Dutch, Danish and Luxembourg divisions.

A crowded programme awaits the General in London. He will meet the King, Mr Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, and Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary.

On Tuesday he will have a full-scale discussion with the North Atlantic deputies Council, now working with the new Defence Production Board on speeding the flow of arms to Europe and accelerating defence output in Europe itself.

They will also study ideas for the Atlantic Pact Army.—Reuter.

"FRONTLINE FORCE"

General Dwight D. Eisenhower begins his tasks with the present effective Allied ground force in Western Germany—eight divisions and two independent brigades.

These formations should muster about 125,000 men, though some of them, including the British, are known to be under strength. In addition, there are many thousands more administrative troops in the occupation armies.

The present "frontline" force consists of two British divisions, the Seventh Armoured (Desert Rats) and the Second Infantry Division; two American divisions, the Com-stabulary Force (an armoured formation) and the 1st Cavalry Division; three French divisions, including the 5th Armoured Division; a Belgian force of about divisional strength; and one Norwegian and one Danish brigade.

The Western Allied troops are strung out in a thin line facing a tortuous 700-mile "frontier" which stretches south

from Luebeck Bay in Northern Germany along the border of the Soviet Zone and the Czechoslovak frontier to where the United States Zone meets the Soviet Zone of Austria.

FIRST PRIORITIES

These troops are today awaiting the reinforcements promised by the New York Foreign Ministers' Conference last September.

The British 11th Armoured Division, expected soon as the first of the reinforcements, will have its headquarters at Herford, in Westphalia.

Additional Belgian and United States troops have also been promised and the French 5th Armoured Division is being entirely refitted with modern American equipment.

First priorities—tanks—started arriving at divisional headquarters a few weeks ago.

The various occupation armies are at present deployed on a zonal basis which will end when sufficient reinforcements arrive. All troops here commanded by General Eisenhower will then be deployed as military reason dictates.

Joint manoeuvres and other training programmes, particularly in the past year, have already done much to familiarise the various armies with the methods and equipment of their neighbours' forces.—Reuter.

German Conditions For Cooperation

Bielefeld, Jan. 14.

The West German Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer, said here today that all Germans stood four square in the "Western camp of freedom."

He stipulated, however, five conditions which, he said, must be fulfilled for successful co-operation between the West German Federal Republic and the West.

They were:

(1) All freedom-loving peoples must at once put their full political and military power in the service of peace and safeguarding freedom.

(2) The right of occupation must be replaced by a treaty and the Allied High Commission must be replaced by a conference of ambassadors.

(3) The German defence contingent must be given absolutely equal status with its other partners.

(4) West Germany, apart from its own contributions, must get financial aid from the Allies in building her defences to enable her also to meet her extremely high social burdens.

(5) A Big Four-Power conference must not be at the expense of Germany.

Dr Adenauer, who was addressing a meeting of the Westphalian Christian Democratic Union, said that the Germans also wished that the Allies would finally remove the "barriers of mistrust."

EASTERN PRESSURE

Commenting on the letter of the East German Premier, Otto Grotewohl, inviting him to round-table talks on German re-unification, Dr Adenauer said that it was an attempt, in unison with the (Communist) Socialist Party propaganda in East Germany, to strengthen Russia's position for a four-Power conference.

Similar pressure was also being exerted on France and Italy by the Russians who kept drawing their attention to the alleged re-arming of Germany.—Reuter.

Showdown

With Peking Indicated

(Continued from Page 1)

on June 10th—15 days before the Korean invasion. That article stated that the South Koreans were anxiously awaiting liberation. It was a matter of speculation as how much credence must be given to such indications, but it was generally agreed that Peking wants to bring the fate of Formosa to an early showdown, military or political. Thus, Peking's acceptance of the cease fire plan—with the provision that Formosa would be immediately discussed by the big powers—would make it unlikely that the Chinese want a military decision at all costs. On the other hand, a rejection of the plan would strengthen the belief that Formosa is in immediate danger.

4. What are Peking's plans concerning Indo-China, Malaya and Hongkong. Generally speaking, the same reasoning applies here as in the case of Formosa.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The Chinese are believed unlikely to engage in new military adventures in Asia if they are seriously contemplating peace talks that would follow their acceptance of the United Nations cease fire plan. Their rejection may point to the contrary. Diplomats believe that the Chinese reaction to the United Nations peace plan may be an advance notice of what is likely to happen in Asia in 1951 and thereafter.—United Press.



SHARP AS A TACK—Jzere Stevens, of the magic Rio Grande Valley of Texas, was needled into this pose in a cactus garden in Dallas. Her choice wasn't exactly limited because she could have had her pick of any one of the 2,000 species of cactus grown there. But this one seemed to be right to the point.

Dr. Edith's Air Thrill

London, Jan. 14.

A British airliner, with Dr Edith Summerskill, the Minister of National Insurance, as a passenger, was forced to return to London Airport today within 30 minutes of taking off for Cairo. Fire engines and ambulances were ordered to stand by when the pilot radioed that he was unable to retract the undercarriage and was returning.

The plane landed safely and eventually left for Cairo after a seven and a half hours' wait at London Airport.—Reuter.

Premiers Discuss Kashmir

London, Jan. 14.

Four Commonwealth Prime Ministers discussed the problem of Kashmir at a meeting which lasted for over two hours today at Chequers, country residence of the British Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee.

The Prime Ministers who participated in the discussions were: Mr Attlee, Mr Liaquat Ali Khan (Pakistan), Mr Jawaharlal Nehru (India) and Mr Robert Menzies (Australia).

A statement on the discussions is expected to be issued from No. 10 Downing Street, official residence of Mr Attlee in London, some time tomorrow.

The talks were entirely informal—the third such meeting since last Tuesday—and no Government officials were present.

Mr Nehru is staying with Mr Attlee until Monday. He is due to fly to Paris on Wednesday to meet Indian diplomats in Europe.—Reuter.

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NOTICE

CHINESE ESTATES, LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the TWENTY-FOURTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Company's Office, China Building, 5th floor, Hong Kong, on Friday, the 2nd February, 1951, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with the Statement of Accounts, for the year ended the 31st December, 1950, and to elect Directors and Appoint Auditor.

The Transfer Book of the Company will be closed from the 26th January, to 2nd February, 1951 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

MOK HING BUN

Secretary.

Hongkong, 14th Jan., 1951.

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